(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Agra till date, category-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections allotted during 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91 category-wise;

(c) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared;

(d) whether there is any scheme to increase the capacity of existing telephone exchanges or install new exchanges in Agra in near future in order to clear the long waiting list; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of persons on waiting list for telephone connections in Agra as on 31-7-1991 are as under:-

OYT	*NON-OYT*		*TOTAL*
	General	*Special*	
517	9353	1075	10945

(b) The number of telephone connections allotted during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 are as under:-

	OYT	*Non-OYT*	
		General	*Special*
1988-89	17	100	5
1989-90	11	237	48
1990-91	109	801	61

(c) The waiting list is planned to be cleared by 1995.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The following scheme has been drawn to increase the capacity of existing telephone exchanges or install new telephone exchanges in Agra in near future:-

5000 lines crossbar type exchange and 3500 lines electronic exchange are planned to be commissioned in 1991-92. [*Translation*]

Shortage of Postmen in Delhi

3886. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of postmen in each zone of Delhi several postal Divisions;

(b) if so, the measure taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) the number of distribution areas for which complaints regarding non-distribution of dak in-time have been received; and

(d) the action being taken for the proper distribution of dak?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There are approximately 89 vacancies in Postmen cadre in Delhi Postal Circle which have mostly arisen on account of creation of 86 posts of postmen in 1990-91.

(b) Action is under way to fill up the vacancies.

(c) 10 (Ten).

(d) Most of these areas are newly developed colonies situated in the outlying areas. The delivery arrangements in these areas have been strengthened and delivery work is subjected to constant monitoring.

[*English*]

Conference on Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

3887. SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are approaching the U.N. for a fresh initiative to hold the Conference on Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The Government of India has not mooted any fresh initiative in this matter. India has consistently asserted that the purpose of the proposed UN Conference should be to implement the 1971 UN Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (IOZOP) and that the objective of the Conference is to secure the elimination of Great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean. Accordingly, the participation of the Great Powers and the